

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Traffic Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chairperson Rudolph led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Green, Sargent, Siani,  
Tsao, Walter, and Chairperson Rudolph.

Absent: Commissioner Galvin.

Also Present: Engineering Manager Semaan and  
Associate Engineer Kamimura.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Siani moved to grant Commissioner Galvin an excused absence for the December 5, 2011 Traffic Commission meeting. Commissioner Walter seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Tsao seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin).

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 7, 2011**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved for the approval of the November 7, 2011 Traffic Commission meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Walter seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin).

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

None.

**7. ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Chairperson Rudolph explained the policies and procedures of the Traffic Commission, including the right to appeal decisions to City Council.

**7a. TRAFFIC COMMISSION 2011 YEAR IN REVIEW**

Engineering Manager Semaan presented the Traffic Commission 2011 Year in Review and asked the Commission to receive and file it. He noted that the year is

summarized with the Commission meeting date, the listing of the items of that meeting, and a brief summary of the outcome.

Commissioner Sargent related his observation that key conclusions are missing from some of the items and requested that staff include closure information.

Engineering Manager Semaan offered to add final recommendations and approvals prior to forwarding the report to City Council.

Chairperson Rudolph expressed appreciation to staff for all the time and energy they put into preparing the report.

**7b. TRAFFIC COMMISSION WORK PLAN – THIRD PRIORITY**  
**Pedestrian Crosswalk Enhancement**  
**Audio/Tactile/In-Pavement Flashing Markers**

Associate Engineer Kamimura provided background on the item continued from the November 7, 2011 Commission meeting. He recalled that the Commission recommended that staff return with a listing of measures considered viable to be considered for future potential installations, along with pros and cons of each. He requested that the Commission review the staff report on existing Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and TMC guidelines, receive input from staff, and concur with the list of measures that could be considered for enhanced crosswalk installations.

He presented a Crosswalk Enhancement Summary in the material of record that lists pros and cons as well as cost estimates for five types of installations: tactile, audio, pedestrian countdown signals, in pavement flashers and signage, and flashing beacons. He noted that the actual cost of in pavement flashers is approximately \$40,000 per location and that flashing beacons on traffic signal poles with mast arms are estimated at \$150,000.

Associate Engineer Kamimura responded to the Commission's previous request for information regarding crosswalk enhancements along Cabrillo Avenue. He stated that in 2011 staff applied for funds to perform pedestrian improvements that would reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians by constructing bulb-outs at curb returns, enhance visibility caused by parking along both sides of the median, and installing angled parking along both sides of Cabrillo Avenue. He noted that the project was not awarded funds but that staff intends to apply in future rounds.

Chairperson Rudolph requested that staff add "Visual" enhancements to the Summary and expressed interest in discussing how each of the measures could be applied at the intersection of 182<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bailey Drive.

Engineering Manager Semaan suggested that staff bring back an action item for that intersection once a funding source has been identified.

Chairperson Rudolph requested that staff provide a list of manufacturers of in pavement flashers to educate them about what they offer, costs, and maintenance requirements.

Engineering Manager Semaan discussed maintenance issues of in pavement flashers and pointed out that technology is constantly changing.

Commissioner Sargent stated that there are some crosswalks in the City that need visual enhancements, such as on Hawthorne Boulevard just north of Pacific Coast Highway. He questioned if there are any other devices that are not on the list that are less expensive to install.

Engineering Manager Semaan offered to bring back information regarding potential additional enhancements and mentioned that there is signage with flashers embedded in them.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved to concur with the list of measures that could be considered for enhanced crosswalk installations, to add "Visual" enhancements to the Crosswalk Enhancement Summary, and with the understanding that staff will bring back potential additional enhancements for future consideration. Commissioner Siani seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Galvin).

#### **7c. QUARTERLY TRAFFIC COMMISSION SUMMARY OF REQUESTS**

Engineering Manager Semaan presented the first Quarterly Traffic Commission Summary of Requests in Attachment A encompassing the period of June to November 30, 2011. He discussed pending items: Commissioner Walter's request to consider split phasing of the Lowes/Costco signal on Skypark Drive and Commissioner Sargent's request to review signal timing and operations at Calle Mayor and Anza Avenue. He stated that Commissioner Walter's request is potentially doable and that Operations staff is working with the manufacturer to determine requirements. Regarding Commissioner Sargent's request, he relayed comments from Operations staff that a coordination pattern has been put in for Anza Avenue.

Commissioners and staff discussed a November 3, 2011 e-mail safety concern from Commissioner Green regarding Skypark Drive entering Lowe's parking lot. She expressed concern that there is a green light for one movement and a green light for a conflicting movement.

Engineering Manager Semaan advised that Operations staff determined that there is no conflict with signal indication and stressed the importance that drivers look at the signal closest to them and not the secondary arrow. He raised the possibility of moving the limit line further east to increase the distance between the lights.

#### **8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

**8a.** Engineering Manager Semaan stated that Commissioners can go on a field trip to the Traffic Management Center in groups of three or less, but that the entire Commission cannot go at one time because of potential Brown Act conflict.

**8b.** Commissioners and staff wished each other a happy holiday season.

**8c.** Chairperson Rudolph expressed his appreciation for Commissioner Galvin's four years of service on the Commission.

**8d.** Commissioner Sargent shared a Los Angeles Times article about bike lanes in downtown Los Angeles and Engineering Manager Semaan informed Commissioners that City Council approved the Bike Master Plan on November 22, 2011.

**8e.** Commissioner Sargent requested an excused absence for the February 6, 2012 Traffic Commission meeting.

**8f.** In response to Commissioner Tsao's inquiry, Associate Engineer Kamimura advised that a contract was awarded on November 15, 2011 for improvements on Hawthorne Boulevard and Skypark Drive.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:04 p.m., Chairperson Rudolph adjourned the meeting to February 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room, Torrance City Hall.

Approved as Submitted March 5, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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